

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following **Listing of Claims** replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this Application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container, said composition comprising a meiosis activation substance having a low oxygen content, and in a container wherein the oxygen content in the container is less than about 0.01 moles oxygen per liter said and the closed container is capable of maintaining the low oxygen content of oxygen.~~

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition of in a closed container according to claim 1, wherein the low oxygen content is below less than about 0.001 moles of oxygen per liter of the volume of the container.~~

4. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container according to of claim 1, wherein the low oxygen content is below less than about 0.0001 moles of oxygen per liter of the volume of the container.~~

5. (currently amended) A ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container comprising~~ (A) a container and (B) a composition comprising (i) a solid composition of a meiosis activation substance, (ii) an additive, and (iii) an atmosphere with an a low oxygen content of less than 10% contained therein, and wherein the ~~closed container is capable of maintaining the low oxygen content of oxygen.~~

6. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~

~~according to~~ of claim 5, wherein the solid composition of a meiosis activation substance has a high aqueous solubility.

7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition of in a closed container~~ according to claim 5, wherein the oxygen content of the atmosphere is less than ~~below~~ 5%.

9. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition of in a closed container~~ according to claim ~~5~~ 8, wherein the oxygen content of the atmosphere is less than ~~below~~ 1%.

10. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition of in a closed container~~ according to claim 5, wherein the atmosphere contains more than ~~over~~ 90% nitrogen or argon.

11. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition of in a closed container~~ according to claim 10 ~~5~~, wherein the atmosphere contains more than ~~over~~ 99% nitrogen or argon.

12. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition of in a closed container~~ according to claim 5, wherein the solid composition has a water content ~~below~~ of less than about 10%.

13. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition of in a closed container~~ according to claim ~~5~~ 12, wherein the solid composition has a water content of less than ~~below~~ about 5%.

14. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition of in a closed container~~ according to claim ~~5~~ 13, wherein the solid composition has a water content ~~below~~ of less than

about 1%.

15. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ according to of claim 5, wherein the solid composition has an organic solvent content of less than below about 10%.

16. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ according to claim 5 15, wherein the solid composition has an organic solvent content below of less than about 5%.

17. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ according to of claim 5 16, wherein the solid composition has an organic solvent content of less than below about 1%.

18. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ according to of claim 5, wherein the meiosis activation substance content is makes up less than below about 10% of the composition contained in the container by weight.

19. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ according to of claim 5 18, wherein the meiosis activation substance ~~content is~~ makes up less than below about 2% of the composition contained in the container by weight.

20. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ according to of claim 5 19, wherein the meiosis activation substance ~~content is~~ makes up less than below about 1% of the composition contained in the container by weight.

21. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~

~~according to~~ of claim 1, wherein the meiosis activation substance is a compound exhibiting a percentage germinal vesicle breakdown which is 50% higher than a control.

22. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical compositions in a closed container~~ ~~according to~~ composition of claim 1, wherein the meiosis activation substance is ~~selected from~~ 4,4-dimethyl-5 α -cholesta-8,14,24-triene-3 β -ol; 4,4-dimethyl-5 α -cholest-8,14,24-trien-3 β -ol hemisuccinate; 5 α -cholest-8,14-dien-3 β -ol; 5 α -cholest-8,14-dien-3 β -ol hemisuccinate; (20S)-cholest-5-en-3 β ,20-diol; 3 β -hydroxy-4,4-dimethyl-5 α -chola-8,14-dien-24-oic acid-N-(methionine) amide; cholest-5-en-16 β -ol; ~~and or~~ or (20S)-20-[(piperidin-1-yl)methyl]-4,4-dimethyl-5 α -pregna-8,14-dien-3 β -ol.

23. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed contained~~ ~~according to~~ of claim 5, wherein the additive is a protein or a ~~phosphorglyceride~~ phosphoglyceride.

24. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ ~~according to~~ of claim 23, wherein the additive protein is serum albumin.

25. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ ~~according to~~ of claim 24, wherein the serum albumin is human serum albumin or recombinant ~~form~~ human serum albumin.

26. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ ~~according to~~ of claim 5, wherein the additive ~~content is above~~ makes up at least about 90% of the content of the composition contained in the container.

27. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition of in a closed container~~

according to claim 5 26, wherein the additive ~~content is above~~ makes up at least about 98% of the composition contained in the container.

28. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ according to of claim 5 27, wherein the additive ~~content is above~~ makes up at least about 99% of the composition contained in the container.

29. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ according to of claim 5, said wherein the container having comprises one or more hollow spaces and ~~wherein~~ at least one of the hollow spaces contains a composition comprising (i) the a solid composition of a meiosis activation substance with a high aqueous solubility, (ii) the additive, and (iii) the atmosphere ~~with a low oxygen content.~~

30. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ according to of claim 5, wherein an aqueous media is added to the solid composition to form an aqueous solution.

31. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ according to of claim 30, wherein the meiosis activation substance in the aqueous solution is in a concentration ~~above~~ of at least about 100 µg/ml.

32. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ according to of claim 30, wherein the meiosis activation substance in the aqueous solution is in a concentration ~~above~~ of at least about 10 µg/ml.

33. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~ according to of claim 30, wherein the meiosis activation substance in the aqueous solution is in a

concentration ~~above~~ of at least about 1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$.

34. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~
~~according to~~ of claim 30, wherein the meiosis activation substance in the aqueous solution is in a
concentration ~~above~~ of at least about 0.001 $\mu\text{g/ml}$.

35. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~
~~according to~~ of claim 30, wherein the aqueous media has an organic solvent content of less than
about 0.1%.

36. (currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition in a closed container~~
~~according to~~ of claim ~~30~~ 35, wherein the aqueous media has an organic solvent content of less
than about 0.05%.

37. (original) A process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition in a closed
container, comprising:

- a) preparing a solid composition comprising a meiosis activation substance and an
additive;
- b) adding the solid composition to the container;
- c) freeze drying the composition; and
- d) closing the container *in vacuo*.

38. (currently amended) The process of ~~according to~~ claim 37, wherein the
preparation of the solid composition is performed *in vacuo*.

39. (currently amended) The process according to claim 37, wherein the preparation
of the solid composition is performed in an atmosphere having a ~~low content of~~ an oxygen

content of less than about 0.01 moles per liter.

40. (currently amended) A process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition in a closed container, ~~said process~~ comprising:

- a) preparing a solid composition comprising a meiosis activation substance and an additive;
- b) filling the solid composition into the container;
- c) filling the container with an atmosphere ~~having a low content of~~ having an oxygen content of less than 10%; and
- d) closing the container.

41. (currently amended) The process ~~of according to~~ claim 40, wherein the solid composition is prepared in an atmosphere ~~having a low content of~~ an oxygen content of less than about 0.01 moles per liter.

42. (currently amended) A process for increasing the stability of a ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition in a closed container comprising:

- a) preparing a solid composition comprising a meiosis activation substance ~~having an a low content of oxygen~~ content of less than about 0.01 moles per liter and an additive;
 - b) filling the solid composition into the container;
 - c) filling the container with an atmosphere ~~having an a low content of oxygen~~ content of less than 10%; and
 - d) closing the container.
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